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TELEPHONES:

MAJORITY—225-4527
 MINORITY—225-3725

April 22, 1981

To: Cong. A.F. Hawkins
 From: Mr. J. W. Smith
 Re: Our Black Education Advisory Group

The Education Group (which I will be referring to as "TEG" from now on) met on Tuesday, April 21, 1981). Those present were: Ms. Brenda Pillors (Ms. Chisholm's office), Dr. Mary Berry, Dr. K. Tollett, Dr. Edward Dorn (Ex. Dir. PUSH- EXCEL). Those absent were: Dr. Al Townsel (Council of Great City Schools), Dr. Crystal Kuykendall, Mr. Moses Holmes (NEA), and James Lockhart (Dir of Refugee Prog., Dept of Ed).

We decided to formalize the Group, because we felt that it was important to continue our dialogue on the education issues affecting Blacks; to establish priorities on the issues; to develop and implement strategies, activities, and actions.

TEG also felt that it was extremely important to formalize our association because of the in-puts that they could effectuate through the offices of the CBC Members serving on the Ed and Labor Committee, and because of my presence on the Full Committee.

TEG then discussed at some length the proposed private school hearings to be conducted by the Subcommittee on Elem and Second Ed.

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The Hearings are to take place tentatively in May sometime and will have panels in the following areas:

1. Tuition Tax Credits (probably hold this hearing jointly with Post Secondary Education Subcom.)
2. Education vouchers
3. Public Schools/Private Schools - data base focus
4. Constitutional issues
5. Coleman Report

TEG felt that they should attempt to develop witnesses for the hearings (especially in light of my discussions with Jack Jennings, that the hearings were no where near finalized and that he would appreciate names and ideas for the hearings).

In general, TEG does not want to overtly attack the Tuition tax credit or Coleman position; their position is that TEG will support programs that promote equal ^{educational} opportunity and quality education for Black children because ^{equal op and quality ed} will develop the best in human capital (resources). TEG will also strongly reaffirm its commitment to public education as one of the best ways of assuring that Black youngsters will ^{be} the recipients of equal educational opportunity and quality education.

The goal now is to commit these ideas to paper; Dorn and Berry and Smith will work on this so that this position could be published. The scenario is as follows:

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1. Write draft of the article...which would be reviewed by Mr. H and Ms. C
2. Edit article and submit to Wash Post or NYTimes under the by-line of Mr. H and Ms. C
3. Submit excerpt of article to Ebony Magazine
4. Use article as a basis for TEG testimony on private school hearings
5. Use article position as a base for CBC Legislative Workshops in Education in September

TEG's next meeting will take place as soon as the draft article is completed.

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